

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJECT: INCLUSION OF BULANDRA THEATER GROUP IN PROGRAM
DOCUMENT

1. DEPARTMENT HAS SPOKEN WITH DAVID YOUNG OF AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL (ACTF) REGARDING BULANDRA THEATER GROUP. YOUNG WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RENEWED POSSIBILITY OF US VISIT BY GROUP. HE POINTED OUT ACTF HAD BEEN READY TO FULLY FUND GROUP'S COSTS IN US FOR BICENTENNIAL VISIT, WHICH UNFORTUNATELY FELL THROUGH WHEN ROMANIANS COULD NOT PROVIDE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION.

2. THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, HE WOULD HAVE TO AGAIN SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT BULANDRA TO ACTF GOVERNING COMMITTEE, WHICH MEETS FEBRUARY 22. DEPARTMENT HAS IMPRESSION FROM CONVERSATION THAT, WHILE YOUNG WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT SUCH A PROPOSAL, HE ANTICIPATES SOME TROUBLE IN THE
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COMMITTEE THIS TIME WITH BICENTENNIAL IMPETUS GONE. AFTER QUICK REVIEW OF COSTS INVOLVED HE INDICATED, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, THAT ACTF WOULD PROBABLY BE ABLE TO FUND ALL COSTS IN US AGAIN THIS YEAR, PROVIDED ONLY

THAT HIS COMMITTEE IS WILLING.

3. YOUNG NOTED THE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR WILL TAKE PLACE ABOUT APRIL 4 TO 17. HE ASKED FOR AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE OF A PLANNED BULANDRA TRIP AS POSSIBLE TO PERMIT ADVANCE FUND-RAISING, AND FOR WRITTEN DETAILS OF A PROPOSED VISIT TO APPEND TO HIS SUBMISSION TO HIS COMMITTEE. HE SAID HE WOULD HOPE A PROGRAM COULD INCLUDE FOSTER'S ELIZABETH I, AND A ROMANIAN PLAY SOMEWHAT LIGHTER IN TONE, POSSIBLY ION LUCU CARIGIALE'S LOST LETTER. HE FEELS GORKI'S LOWER DEPTHS, AS A RATHER HEAVY PIECE, WOULD BE TOO MUCH IN COMBINATION WITH FOSTER.

4. YOUNG REACTION PRESENTS US WITH SOMETHING OF QUANDARY. IF WE INCLUDE BULANDRA IN PROGRAM WE HAVE COMMITTED OURSELVES AT LEAST TO SOME EXTENT, ALTHOUGH ACTF FUNDING IS STILL UNCERTAIN. HOWEVER IF WE DROP IT WE MAY ENDANGER THE NECESSARY ROMANIAN FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL. REQUEST EMBASSY'S VIEWS.
ROBINSON

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